



12/18/00

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December 15, 2000

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are:

- (1) Specification (45 pages)
- (2) Forty-four (44) Claims-- 8 independent, 36 dependent
- (3) Drawings (10 sheets)
- (4) Declaration and Power of Attorney
- (5) Verified Statements Claiming Small Entity Status
- (6) Assignment
- (7) Information Disclosure Statement
- (8) Express Mail Certificate
- (9) Return Receipt Post Card



A check in the amount of \$771.00 is enclosed to cover the filing fee. The fee has been calculated as shown below:

Basic fee- small entity	\$ 355.00
Excess independent claims (\$40 * 5)	\$ 200.00
Excess claims (\$9 * 24)	<u>\$ 216.00</u>
Total	\$ 771.00

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. " 1.10 and 1.53, applicant respectfully requests that this application be assigned a serial number and a filing date of December 15, 2000, the date upon which the application was mailed to the Patent and Trademark Office by Express Mail.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 15, 2000



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE


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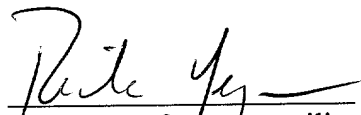
CERTIFICATE under 37 CFR 1.10 of MAILING by "EXPRESS MAIL"



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Date of Deposit: December 15, 2000

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date shown above and is addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box New Appl., Washington, D.C. 20231.


(signature of person mailing correspondence)

Rick Yeager

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